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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR

1960



J. G. S. TURNER  
Medical Officer of Health



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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1960

MR. R.C.H. JONES

Chairman

MR. H.M. ROWSE

Chairman of the Council

MR. J.C. WAKEFORD

Vice Chairman of the Council

MR. W.G. BAYLISS  
MR. P.T. BAYS  
MR. E.H.H. DORMAN  
MR. C.M.T. FOLLETT  
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MR. G.J. LARCOMBE  
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MR. W.G. SCOVIN  
MR. W.J. STEVENS  
MR. I.C. WAITE  
MR. J. WARNE  
MR. S. WARNE  
MR. H.C. WILLIAMS  
MR. W. WINDLE

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of  
St. Austell

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the  
Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District  
for the year 1960.

The vital records are satisfactory  
and for the third year in succession the infant mortality rate has been well  
below the national rate. The still birth rate which is closely related is  
still much too high.

I wish to record my thanks to  
Mr. Watts and his staff, and to Mr. King and Mr. Mules, to all of whom I  
am indebted for parts of this report.

I wish also to thank members of  
the Public Health Committee for continued interest and support.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

J.G.S.Turner

Medical Officer of Health.

# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	18,379
Population ... ..	23,980
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	8,621
Rateable Value ... ..	£278,532
Product of Penny Rate ... ..	£1,120

<u>Live Births</u>	M	F	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate 1,000 Population</u>	
				<u>St. Austell</u> <u>U.D.C.</u>	<u>England &amp;</u> <u>Wales</u>
Legitimate	187	174	361	15.6	
Illegitimate	5	9	14		
Rate corrected for comparison with other areas				17.0	17.1
<u>Illegitimate births per cent of total live births</u>				3.7%	

<u>Still Births</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live &amp; Still Births</u>	
Legitimate	5	6	11	33.5	19.7
Illegitimate	2	0	2		
Total Live & Still Births	199	189	388		

<u>Infant Deaths</u>					
Legitimate	2	4	6		
Illegitimate	0	0			
Rate per 1,000 total live births				16.0	21.7
Rate per 1,000 total legitimate births				16.6	-
Rate per 1,000 total illegitimate births				0.0	-

<u>Neo-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live Births</u>	
Infant deaths under 4 week	2	2	4	10.6	15.6

<u>Early neo-natal rate</u>					
Infant deaths under 1 week	2	1	3	8.0	-

<u>Peri-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live &amp; Still Births</u>	
Still births & deaths under 1 week					
	9	7	16	41.3	

<u>Maternal Mortality</u>	0	0	0	0.0	0.39
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				<u>Rate 1,000 population</u>	
<u>Deaths</u> (All ages & causes)	164	175	339	14.1	
Corrected for comparison with other areas				11.6	11.5



# CAUSES OF DEATH

The following is an abbreviated list of the causes of death of persons of all ages:-

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis-respiratory	0	0	0
2. Tuberculosis-other	2	0	2
3. Syphilitis Disease	1	0	1
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	2	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	3	0	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
14. Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasm	13	9	22
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	35	58
18. Coronary disease, angina	38	24	62
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	6	7
20. Other heart disease	34	49	83
21. Other circulatory disease	4	3	7
22. Influenza	0	1	1
23. Pneumonia	2	4	6
24. Bronchitis	8	2	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	4	1	5
27. Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	2	2	4
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	0	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0	3
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	1	5	6
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	14	21	35
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	0	0
34. All other accidents	5	2	7
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide & operations of war	0	0	0
All causes	164	175	339

## Percentage contribution of principal causes of death

	<u>St. Austell</u>		<u>Eng. &amp; Wales</u>
	1960	1959	1960 figs
Tuberculosis	0.6	1.1	0.6
Malignant disease	11.4	16.6	18.5
Vascular lesions of Central nervous system	17.1	14.3	14.5
Diseases of Circulatory system	46.9	42.9	37.9
" " Respiratory system	5.0	5.7	10.9
" " Digestive system	2.8	2.8	3.0
" " Genito urinary system	1.2	1.4	2.0
Accidents, violence etc.	3.2	1.7	4.4

Apart from respiratory and genito urinary diseases where the local experience is very favourable, there is little difference from the national figures. The excess of deaths due to disease of the circulatory system is probably related to the larger number of old people in Cornwall.

The following short table gives the percentage distribution of deaths in various age groups.

<u>Age Group at death</u>	<u>Percentage dying in each age group</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
0 - 1 year	1.2	2.3
1 - 59 years	23.0	10.9
60 - 69 years	24.2	14.3
70 - 79 years	31.5	33.1
80 - 89 years	17.6	31.5
90 - 99 years	2.4	7.4
100 +	0.0	0.1

Average age at death

Males	66.0 years
Females	73.3 years

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE  
YEAR OF AGE

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Ages in Weeks</u>						<u>Total</u>
	<u>-1</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-4</u>	<u>-5</u>	<u>-52</u>	
Premature	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Abnormality of Spinal Cord & Spine	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mongol - Congenital Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Polycystic Kidney, Pyelo-nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Lumbar Meningococle	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
No Spinal Nerves	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
<hr/>							
Total	3	-	-	-	-	3	6

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA - (in acres) 18,379

The District is mixed Urban and Rural, the main aggregations of population being in St. Austell town, Mevagissey, St. Blazey and Par. Par and Charlestown are ports dealing with the China Clay trade, while Mevagissey deals with the fishing trade. The whole area is popular as a seaside resort and the population is greatly increased during the summer months.

POPULATION - 23,980

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

According to the Rate Book, the number of inhabited houses in the district was 8,621, the rateable value being £278,532 which gives £1,120 penny rate.

CLIMATE

1960 was extremely wet, and the rainfall figure was the highest that has ever been recorded in St. Austell. In the last three months there were only 11 days without rain.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>RAINFALL, 1960</u>	<u>MONTHLY AVERAGE FROM 1916 - 1950</u>
January	5.81	5.61
February	4.82	4.08
March	4.37	3.53
April	3.47	2.93
May	2.68	3.06
June	2.72	2.04
July	6.04	3.39
August	2.87	3.56
September	6.51	3.55
October	9.27	5.07
November	7.43	5.57
December	5.73	5.58
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	61.72	47.97
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Monthly Average	5.14	3.96
No. of Wet Days	233	-



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Medical Officer of Health

J. G. S. Turner, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Area Health Office,  
Moorland Road, St. Austell.  
Telephone - St. Austell 2206.

2. Senior Public Health Inspector

C. H. Watts, C.R.San.I., Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.

3. Additional Public Health Inspectors

L. H. Sturtridge, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,  
Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.

C. F. Quantrell, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.  
Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES

These were available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary where all material for investigation was sent.

#### PROPHYLACTICS

Supplies of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus prophylactics were available in various combinations. Poliomyelitis vaccine became available in adequate amounts. Supplies were available to Medical Practitioners at the Area Health Office, St. Austell, on request.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE

The control of this service has been passed to a Controller stationed in Bodmin. There has been no change in the method of obtaining help and the service maintained its high efficiency.

#### NURSING AND OTHER SERVICES IN THE HOME

These have worked well in spite of staff shortage, particularly of mid-wives, the establishment was as follows :-

(contd).

	District Nurse Midwife Health Visitor	Health Visitor (Full-time)	General Nurse & Midwife	Total
Mevagissey	1	-	-	1
St. Blazey & Tywardreath	3	-	-	3
St. Austell & Treverbyn	2	3	3	8

All Nurses as circumstances permit are sent for further training or for practical post-certificate courses.

#### DOMICILLARY MIDWIFERY

Approximately 60% of all births occur at home and provided the home conditions are good and that difficulties are unlikely to arise, this is the best place.

#### CARE AND AFTER CARE

Children and old people discharged from hospital are followed up until fit.

#### ANTE AND POST-NATAL CARE

An ante-natal clinic was held weekly at Moorland Road, by a Specialist Obstetrician. In addition a weekly clinic was held by midwives. Relaxation classes have been established at Par, and in St. Austell. A Mother's club has been established in St. Austell and has very successful meetings.

#### INFANT CHILD WELFARE

Clinics are held fortnightly at St. Austell and at Par. The attendances averaged 26.0 and 22.3 respectively. Emphasis is placed on health education.

#### DOMESTIC SERVICE

A total of 114 persons were helped of whom 17 were maternity cases. Many of the cases helped are old people, who without help would be unable to stay in their own homes.

#### CARE OF OLD PEOPLE

The Old Peoples Welfare Association has accepted the responsibility of delivering pasties and cooked meals. This has been made possible by the co-operation of the County Welfare Department.

The chiropody service has expanded and it has been possible to meet the demand of all those in need.

A rest room has been provided in the town where older people may rest after shopping expeditions. Owing to lack of funds it is possible to give this service only twice weekly. The aim of the Association is to provide a room in the centre of the town, which would open daily. It is not likely that without outside help enough money can be gathered in the foreseeable future to make this possible.



## HOSPITALS

The only hospital in the area is the St. Austell and District Hospital which deals with general medical and surgical cases. Cases unrequiring further examination and special treatment are sent to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Maternity cases go to Redruth and infectious diseases requiring isolation treatment are sent to the Isolation Hospital at Truro. Cases of tuberculosis and other chest conditions are admitted to Tehidy where accomodation is now more than adequate.

## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) Clinics held at Moorland Road are as follows :-

Ante-Natal & Gynaecology	Every Monday
Orthopaedic	Every Tuesday
Child Welfare	First, Third & Fifth Wednesday of each month.
Speech Therapy	Every Wednesday
E. N. T.	As required
Dental	Daily
Child Guidance	Second & Fourth Wednesday of each month.
Pyschiatric	Tuesday afternoons
Family Planning	Fourth Friday evening & second Monday Afternoon

(b) Clinics held at the Hospital :-

General Medical & Surgical	Daily
Orthopaedic	Monday-fore-noon
Veneral Diseases	Tuesday afternoons
Tuberculosis	Monday afternoon
Skin Clinic	Thursday mornings

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

#### WATER

Consumer demands for water were adequately met in all parts of the district.

Bacteriological examinations have been made regularly on both raw and treated water from all sources, and were generally found to be satisfactory.

The water supply in the district is soft and the high silica content provides a natural check on plumbo-solvency. Lead pipes are prohibited on drinking supplies, plastic or copper tubing being the standard materials used throughout the district.

Approximately 97% of the houses in the district have a piped water supply, and most have water indoors. During the year the duplicate trunk main from Trethurgy to Mevagissey was completed as well as mains at Mevagissey and Holmbush.

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Ruddlemoor sewerage scheme was commenced and the first stage of Mevagissey sewerage (pumping station) completed. Sewers were also laid at Boscoppa and Mevagissey. Tenders have been invited for the construction of sewers at Scredda and Tregrehan. A large septic tank to serve properties at St. Andrews Road, Par was put into operation.

#### DISINFECTION

Disinfection has been carried out as required and a total of 2 houses were disinfected during the year.

#### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

This service was well maintained throughout the year. The work was done as follows :-

##### (a) Private Dwellings

279 Treatments were carried out free of charge to the householder.

##### (b) Business Premises

152 Treatments were carried out and the cost charged to the firms concerned. Most occupiers of these premises have agreements with the Local Authority for regular treatments



(c) Sewers

The biannual baiting of sewers was carried out in April and November. The sewers were found to be in a very satisfactory condition. These treatments were administered under the 'Block Control' System as advised by the Ministry's Pest Officer in the interest of economy.

(d) Refuse Disposal Works

These were regularly surveyed and treatments carried out as required.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This activity is under the supervision of the Surveyor. A weekly refuse collection is in operation throughout the Urban Area, but in certain very congested places in Mevagissey, where there is no storage accommodation, collections are made three times a week. The refuse is disposed of at tips at Mevagissey, Sawles Road, and Par, and little or no nuisance is caused.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Urban District is moderately well served with conveniences, which are supervised by the Surveyor's Staff. A twice daily cleansing service is maintained in the town area and at Par and Mevagissey during the summer months.

## SECTION D.

### HOUSING

Details of applicants were as follows :-

Number without separate houses	420
Number of families with separate homes	
A. Living in unfit houses	70
B. Living in over occupied houses	<u>156</u>
	<u>646</u>

Applications from young people without separate homes heavily outweigh all other applications and overcrowding through the occupation of reasonable fit houses by two or more families is a major problem. Types required are as follows :-

1 Bedroom Type	139
2 Bedroom Type	408
3 Bedroom Type	84
4 Bedroom Type	15

—  
646  
—

It is again emphasised that the housing shortage in the area is even greater than reflected in the Councils waiting list as owing to the rise in the cost of new houses and the consequential high rentals, many people prefer to remain in unsatisfactory cottages where, however, the rent is controlled and indeed in many instances abnormally low.

The Council owns 1,881 houses and development is still proceeding.

Details of house construction in the area during 1960 were as follows :-

Dwellings erected by the Council	72
Dwellings erected by private enterprise	98

37 houses were in the course of construction by the Council and 98 by private enterprise.

(N.B. Many families although not overcrowded in a statutory sense are living under unsatisfactory conditions in over occupied houses.)



## SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year, 89 persons, comprising 27 families, living in unfit houses were rehoused by the Council. The rehousing of families from unfit houses did not progress as well as I had hoped, in fact only 20% of the dwellings allocated by the Council were let to Slum Clearance tenants. The Council's declared policy is that 40% of the municipal dwellings are allocated to occupants of Slum Clearance Property.

34 Houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation and 4 Clearance Orders, which were subsequently confirmed, two Closing Orders and 4 Demolition Orders were made. Four undertakings not to use and 2 undertakings to make fit were accepted.

## Housing of Problem Families

Every community has a small number of families who find it difficult to cope with living, either on account of some mental defect, or because of the anti-social tendencies which result from a poor up-bringing. These families live mostly in slums or in institutions. They are in fact undesirable tenants, as they tend to live in squalour and not to pay rents.

But the children of such parents are not necessarily innately defective. All the same, owing to rejection by their fellows, to poor housing, and to bad upbringing, many of the children may in fact grow up to adopt a similar unsatisfactory pattern of living.

It is a matter of urgency to break this vicious circle at some point; and the Council as the housing Authority, should play its part by providing housing for problem families. It is accepted that ordinary people need to be helped by having subsidised Council houses provided for them; but here is a group whose need is much greater.

The number of problem families is small. To meet their housing needs now will help to give their children a chance to grow up normally, instead of founding problem families in their turn.

## Housing of the Old

It is generally agreed that older people have special housing needs and that, as far as possible, houses and not institutions should be provided. As to the kind of house needed, and the degree of independence to be allowed for there is room here for plenty of variety.

Up to date the Council has provided only 141 single bedroomed houses and not all of these are occupied by the old.

The proportion of those aged over 65 years in the district is 15% and the proportion of suitable Council houses is 7.5%.

There is an obvious and overdue need for many more houses and especially groups of houses, where a warden service can be provided.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

Constant supervision of the retail distribution of milk was maintained throughout the year.

Samples of milk were obtained during the year from retailers and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

These tests showed that the heat treatment and cleanliness of milk consumed within the district continued to be maintained at a high standard. At the end of the year this duty will become the responsibility of the Cornwall County Council.

MEAT

The daily visits by your Inspectors to the licensed slaughterhouses within the district, for the purpose of meat inspection, continued throughout the year. In order to maintain 100% meat inspection service, your inspectors found it necessary to work late evenings and Sundays.

A large percentage of the animals slaughtered was for export to other towns and to the London Market.

As in previous years it is pleasing to note that the butchers in the Urban Area are still eager to deal in the best grades of meat. Consequently the percentage of condemnations of unsound meat during the year was low.

The following table summarises the results of meat inspection,

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	pigs
Number killed	2,213	404	145	5,470	14,913
Number Inspected	2,213	404	145	5,470	14,913
All diseases except T.B. whole carcasses condemned	-	5	4	9	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	633		-	35	368
Percentage of number insp. affected with diseases other than T.B.	24.1%		2.7%	0.8%	2.5%
T.B. only, whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	3
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	163
Percentage of number insp. affected with T.B.	-	-	-	-	1.1%



SECTION E. (Contd)

There was one case of cysticercus Bovis in the animals inspected during the year.

ICE-CREAM

Premises at which Ice-cream is manufactured and retailed, received continued attention by the Health Inspectors during the year. Collection of samples was maintained during the season and these were submitted to the Methylene Blue Reduction Test at the Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Testing and Advisory Scheme.

The results of these tests are shown below :-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	36
2	3
3	1
4	0

## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of, and control over

### Infectious and Other Diseases

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received :-

	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>		
		<u>St. Austell</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>	
	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1960</u>
Whooping Cough	3	0.13	0.13	1.26
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	1	0.08	0.04	0.01
Measles	1	7.40	0.04	3.46
Sonne Dysentery	2	0.6	0.09	1.05
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0.0	0.04	-

The incidence of paralytic poliomyelitis throughout the U.K. was the lowest since this disease became epidemic in 1947.

The single reported case was thoroughly investigated but the origin could not be discovered. The child affected was not immunised. Virus was recovered from a younger sister, but not from any other member of the family.

Many cases of mumps occurred throughout the area. This outbreak spread gradually from the eastern part of the district to the west, and north and took almost the full year to travel.

### Diphtheria Immunisation

The following table gives the immune state of the child population i.e. the number at 31st December, 1960 who has completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date. (i.e. at any time since 1/1/46)

Age at 31/12/60 i.e. born in the year	<u>Under 1</u> 1960	1 - 4 1956/59	5 - 9 1951/55	10 - 14 1946/50	Total under 15 years
--	------------------------	------------------	------------------	--------------------	-------------------------

Last complete course  
of injections (primary  
or booster)

(a) 1956 - 1960	49	959	805	824	2,637
(b) 1955 or earlier			410	1,083	1,493
Estimated mid-year child population A	369	1,320	1,527	1,813	5,029
Immunity Index $\frac{A}{\text{Popul.}} \times 100$	13.3%	72.7%	52.8%	45.4%	52.5%

/The number

The number adequately protected is well below the number which is considered to be safe, and it is essential that greater numbers of school children should receive boosters.

### Poliomyelitis

More than 5,000 persons in St. Austell have completed their third injection and most of the school children aged 5 - 12 years, who had completed their third a year ago have now received a fourth to keep their immunity at a high level.

### Smallpox

A total of 211 primary vaccinations and 53 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year. Approximately half of the babies born in the area are vaccinated.

### Tuberculosis

The total number of cases in the register at the 31st December, 1960 was as follows :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Male	82 (79)	8 (6)
Female	55 (56)	18 (17)
Total	137 (135)	26 (23)

Figures for 1959 are given in brackets.

The table given below shows the age and sex distribution of new cases and of deaths during 1960

Age Group	<u>New Cases</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 - 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 - 24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 - 44	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 - 64	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Over 64	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6	3	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

In addition to the above, changes in the register were caused by recoveries, and movements into and out of the district.



	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Transfers in	2	0	0	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Recoveries	4	4	0	0

Preventive measures to limit the spread of this disease include the examination of all close contacts of cases, mass radiography of the adult population in limited areas and the special testing and vaccination of school children in their 14th year. In addition contacts of known cases of tuberculosis were given B.C.G. Vaccine.

264 School children in their 14th year were tested and 88.6 were found to have had no previous contact with tuberculosis infection. 225 of the children were given B.C.G. Vaccine.

297 Children and school staff were X-rayed. Two children were found to need further observation and in addition three previously known infections were noted.

#### ACCIDENTS IN AND AROUND THE HOME

These cause more disability and more deaths, even than accidents on the roads. The circumstances in which home accidents occur are multiple, but the fundamental cause is carelessness in adverse conditions; and while much may be done to eliminate or minimise these external conditions in which accidents are liable to occur, human carelessness is another matter, and one that can be dealt with only by education and the formation of patterns of safe behaviour.

The Council has set up a Sub-Committee to consider what can be done, and the services of the Road Safety Officer have been obtained to advise on and carry out propaganda in schools and through clinics and various organisations.



# FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## 1. INSPECTIONS

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. in Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	33	33	-	-
(2) Factories not included is (1) in which section 7 in enforced by the Local Authority	188	107	4	-
(3) Other premises in which sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	15	15	-	-
Total	236	155	4	-

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Drainage of Floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	3	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

	<u>Section 110</u>			<u>Section 111</u>		
Nature of work	No. of Outworkers in Aug. list	No. of cases of default in sending list to Council.	No. of Prosecutions	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosec- utions.
<u>Wearing Apparel</u>						
A. Making of etc.	3	-	-	-	-	-
B. Cleaning and washing of	-	-	-	-	-	-

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED, 1960

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Austell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Joyce and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my  
twenty-third Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1960

A total of 7,051 visits were made  
by your Inspectors during the year. The majority of these visits were made  
in carrying out their Statutory duties under the Public Health, Housing,  
Food and Drugs Acts and Regulations.

I HOUSING

Visits to, and inspections of,  
houses, occupied a great deal of time.

a) SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

15 Houses were represented to the  
Council as being unfit for human habitation, 4 Demolition Orders were  
made. 9 Houses were closed and 2 Undertakings to make fit were  
accepted.

11 Houses subject to Demolition  
Orders and 5 houses situate in a Clearance Area were demolished.

An additional 19 houses were included  
in 4 Clearance Areas and appeals were made by the owners of 8 of the  
houses when the Clearance Orders were submitted to the Minister of  
Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

A Public Local Enquiry was held in  
the Council Chamber in September and the Minister's representative  
inspected the houses after the hearing.

Subsequently, the Clearance Orders  
were confirmed by the Minister, but it is interesting to note that he  
directed the Council to make "well maintained payments", in respect  
of the houses, to the owners who appealed.

b) CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

4 applications for Certificates were  
received, but when the landlords were informed of the Council's intention  
to issue the Certificates, 3 undertakings to remedy the disrepair were  
submitted and accepted and only one Certificate of Disrepair was issued.



## 2. MEAT INSPECTION

A very considerable amount of your inspectors time has been devoted to this important aspect of their work. In order to maintain 100% inspection of all carcasses and offal of animals slaughtered, it has been necessary, once again, to work during the evenings of each weekday and every Sunday throughout the year.

The Government policy on slaughterhouses seems to be one of moderate concentration which in turn will result in a more economic meat inspection service. I can only hope that legislation for controlling the hours of slaughtering will be introduced in the very near future.

A total of 23,000 animals were slaughtered last year.

1,710 visits were paid to the slaughterhouses in the district when the following carcasses and offal were inspected :-

<u>BOVINE</u>	2,617
a) Steers	1,492
b) Heifers	576
c) Cows	404
d) Calves	145
e) Bulls	0
<u>SHEEP</u>	5,470
<u>PIGS</u>	14,913
	<u>23,000</u>

The following table shows the comparison between 1958, 1959 and 1960.

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
<u>BOVINE</u>	2,554	2,572	2,617
a) Steers	1,525	1,552	1,492
b) Heifers	555	509	576
c) Cows	404	423	404
d) Calves	69	82	145
e) Bulls	1	6	0
<u>SHEEP</u>	4,354	7,902	5,470
<u>PIGS</u>	15,977	12,786	14,913
	<u>22,885</u>	<u>23,260</u>	<u>23,000</u>



As a result of these inspections the following were rejected as being unfit for human consumption :-

11 Pig Carcasses and all offal	Swine Fever
2 Pig Carcasses and all offal	Fevered, Dropsy and Emaciated
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Moribund
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Suspected Swine Fever
1 Pig Carcase	Extensive Bruising
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Jaundice
1 Pig Carcase and all offal	Miliary Tuberculosis
5 Cow Carcasses and all offal	Fevered, Dropsy and Emaciated
3 Sheep Carcasses and all offal	Fevered, Dropsy and Emaciated
3 Sheep Carcasses	Severe Bruising
2 Sow Carcasses and all offal	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 Sow Carcase and all offal	Fevered and abscesses
2 Calf Carcasses and all offal	Fevered, Dropsy and Emaciated
1 Calf Carcase and all offal	Septic Pneumonia
1 Calf Carcase	Severe Bruising
2 Ewe Carcasses and all offal	Fevered, Dropsy and Emaciated
1 Ewe Carcase	Severe Bruising
148 Bovine Livers	Distomatosis
47 Bovine Livers	Angiomatosis
295 Bovine Part Livers	Distomatosis and Cirrhosis
22 Bovine Heads and Tongues	Actinomycosis
1 Bovine Head and Tongue	Cysticercus Bovis x
16 Sets of Bovine Lungs	Abscesses
4 Sets of Bovine Lungs	Pneumonia
5 Bovine Hearts	Abscesses
1 Bovine Heart	Cysticercus Bovis x
2 Bovine Tongues	Actinomycosis
1 Bovine Diaphragm	Oedema
1 Pair of Bovine Kidneys	Hydronephrosis
1 Bovine Tail	Oedema
152 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis
117 Pigs Livers	Milk Spot
96 Pigs Plucks	Pleurisy with adhesions
24 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis
20 Sets of Pigs Lungs	Pneumonia
2 Pairs of Pigs Kidneys	Hydronephrosis
20 Sheep Plucks	Pneumonia
15 Sheep Livers	Distomatosis
11 Sows Heads	Tuberculosis
5 Pairs of Sows Kidneys	Hydronephrosis
1 Sows Pluck	Pleurisy with adhesions
1 Sows Heart	Pericarditis
1 Set of Sows Lungs	Pneumonia
1 Boars Head	Tuberculosis
1 Boars Heart	Pericarditis
1 Set of Boars Lungs	Pleurisy

x Carcase and remainder of offal  
sent for Cold Storage Treatment.

3. THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

There were 32 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

4. OTHER FOODS

Numerous routine visits were paid to wholesale and retail premises for the examination of foodstuffs and as a result the following were rejected as being unfit for human consumption :-

1,110 Tins of Fruit	}	Blown, Damaged and Leaking, Mouldy and Decomposed.
699 Tins of Vegetables		
526 Tins of Meat		
256 Tins of Milk		
79 Tins of Fish		
75 Tins of Soup		
75 Tins of Rice Pudding		
22 Tins of Jam		
15 Tins of Orange Juice		
5 Tins of Whole Egg		
100 Packets of Cakeoma		
1 Bag of Flour		

FISH INSPECTION

During the year 1,879 quarter casks of Pickled Pilchards were exported from Mevagissey. In addition, 3,321 lbs of Crayfish, 159 lbs of Crawfish, 5,150 lbs of Hen Crabs and 536 lbs of Lobsters were exported to France.

5. MILK

114 Visits were made to the distributors and dairy premises throughout the district.

Routine sampling was maintained and all samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Truro, for examination.

Of the 64 samples submitted for examination, not one failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

6. ICE-CREAM

A total of 40 samples of ice-cream were collected and submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The results of these tests were as follows :-



Provisional	Grade I	36
"	" II	3
"	" III	1
"	" IV	-

Table for comparison with previous years.

	<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade II</u>	<u>Grade III</u>	<u>Grade IV</u>
1958	63.6%	22.2%	11.1%	3.1%
1959	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%
1960	90.0%	7.5%	2.5%	0.0%

During the year 9 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream making a total of 155 registered premises within the Urban District.

## 7. CAMPING SITES

As from the 29th August, 1960, caravan sites and tent sites were controlled by the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and the Public Health Act, 1936 respectively.

Existing caravan sites had to obtain a site licence by the 29th October, 1960, but Local Authorities could not grant site licences unless planning permission had already been obtained.

New sites must also have planning permission before a site licence can be issued.

The Council, along with the other Local Authorities in the County, adopted the Minister's Model Standards for Site Licence Conditions.

11 Site licences in respect of a total of 109 caravans were issued. 60 of the caravans were for seasonal use only.

It would appear that the caravan's popularity as a permanent home and temporary holiday accomodation is increasing each year.

## 8. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

The destruction of rats and mice has continued during the year but it is very noticeable that the rat population has been considerably reduced over the past few years.



8. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT (Cont)

Survey Work is still being carried out and complaints are dealt with as they are received. Thus a total of 550 visits were made by your operator as follows :-

152 Visits to business premises  
279 Visits to private premises  
101 Visits to Local Authorities' premises  
18 visits to farm premises

9. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Of the 132 samples submitted for examination during the year, 78 were satisfactory and 54 unsatisfactory.

Where the results were unsatisfactory, the consumers were advised to boil water before using it for drinking purposes.

10. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Of the 83 applications for discretionary and standard grants for the improvement of dwellings, 73 were approved, involving a total grant of £8,823 by the Council.

The Council is to be congratulated for continuing to encourage house owners to improve their property with financial assistance.

11. STAFF

The Staff of Inspectors during the year consisted of myself, Mr. L.H. Sturtridge, Mr. C.F. Quantrell, and Mr. J. Crowle, Pupil Assistant.

12. CONCLUSION

I would now take the opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for their help and support given during the year, and also to Dr. Turner for his invaluable help and co-operation at all times. Also I would thank Mr. Saunders, Mr. King, my colleagues, Messrs Sturtridge and Quantrell and all members of the staff for their loyal co-operation and support.

/I

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant

CHARLES H. WATTS

Senior Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,  
Truro Road,  
ST. AUSTELL.

TABLE NO. 1.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICTVISITS

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
Water Supply	67	261	145
Drainage	476	861	859
Stables and Piggeries	4	11	16
Fried Fish Shops	21	18	13
Tents, Vans and Sheds	169	114	282
Factories and Workshops	157	132	155
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	67	51	41
Licensed Premises	0	8	10
Refuse Disposal	35	43	24
Rats and mice destruction	70	51	72
Atmospheric Pollution	5	9	16
School Inspections	3	8	12
Shops Act	23	50	49
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	58	101	143
Appointments and Interviews	210	276	194
Petroleum Acts	144	211	111
Insect Fests	10	2	0
Verminous Premises	35	81	108
Bakehouses	45	28	38
Public Health Act	385	544	539
Housing Act	511	944	832
Infectious Diseases	14	33	25
<u>Inspection of Meat at :-</u>			
a) Slaughterhouses	1,474	1,847	1,710
b) Shops and Stalls	11	1	2
Butchers	150	166	141
Canteens	8	23	5
Dairies and Milk Distributors	59	114	111
Fishmongers and Poulterers	131	207	238
Food preparing premises	108	191	226
Grocers	164	304	194
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	186	249	277
Ice Cream premises	83	77	141
Restaurants	62	36	61
Wholesalers	69	52	107
<u>Sampling</u>			
a) Milk	120	115	64
b) Ice Cream	99	40	40
c) Water	144	221	132
Foodshops	-	22	-
	<u>7,297</u>	<u>7,574</u>	<u>7,115</u>



TABLE NO. 2.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

VERBAL, INFORMAL AND STATUTORY NOTICES

The following table shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions dangerous and injurious to health :-

<u>Notices</u>	<u>No. Served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Work done by the Council in default</u>
Verbal	69	61	-
Informal	54	34	-
Statutory	5	1	-

TABLE NO. 3.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND MISCELLANEOUS

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
1. No. of Houses and premises re-drained	26	42	51
2. Repairs or amendments to existing drains	29	41	41
3. Drains or gullies unstopped and cleaned	36	50	84
4. Length in yards stoneware drains laid	698	525	666
5. Manholes provided	77	65	108
6. New manhole covers	80	66	106
7. Intercepting traps fixed	10	3	18
8. New gully traps fixed	80	63	110
9. Soil pipes and vent shafts fixed	24	24	45
10. Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	7	2	6
11. Water tests applied	19	11	31
12. Smoke tests applied	11	32	25
13. Length in yards iron drains laid	50	118	115
14. New W.C. accomodation provided	30	37	104
15. New W.C. appartments provided	31	18	37
16. New W.C. Pedestals provided	33	38	109
17. W.C's Cleansed and repaired	9	14	23
18. New flushing cisterns provided	28	41	110
19. Flushing cisterns repaired	8	10	9
20. Baths provided	35	34	55
21. Lavatory basins provided	40	41	90
22. Sinks provided	43	45	58
23. New waste pipes provided	106	113	191
24. Existing waste-pipes trapped	12	2	2
25. Pail closets and/or middens abolished	12	4	14
26. Urinals provided	0	2	3
27. Septic tanks provided	7	5	10
28. Cesspools emptied	32	30	48

TABLE NO. 3. (Contd)

<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
1. New roofs provided	25	16	20
2. Chimney stacks repaired	60	53	38
3. Roofs repaired	55	55	45
4. Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	76	77	63
5. Rainwater pipes disconnected or repaired	65	65	65
6. Damp walls remedied	99	83	66
7. Ventilation under floors provided	1	5	-
8. Yards paved	33	27	30
9. Yards repaired	16	26	13
10. Floors of rooms repaired	70	44	58
11. Floors of rooms relaid	39	19	23
12. Rooms cleansed and redecorated	133	102	125
13. New windows provided	90	55	90
14. Windows repaired	80	69	57
15. Plaster of walls or ceiling repaired	201	186	221
16. Doors repaired or renewed	71	63	77
17. Ventilated food stores provided	30	27	48
18. Staircase provided or repaired	17	18	14
19. Water service pipes repaired	45	41	47
20. Dustbins provided	42	34	36
21. Nuisances - animals	4	7	6
22. Nuisances - refuse	12	30	22
23. Bakehouse cleansed	5	7	3
24. Cowsheds and dairies cleansed	-	-	-
25. Fish Fryers premises cleansed	6	4	1
26. Insufficient water supply remedied	34	22	24
27. Grates, ranges, coppers renewed or repaired	67	56	52
28. Rooms disinfected	19	1	4
29. Rooms disinfested	9	8	9

TABLE NO. 4.

<u>HOUSING</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
1. <u>Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year</u>			
(A) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	132	244	200
(B) Number of visits made for the purpose	724	1,237	914
2. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year</u>			
(A) Proceedings under Sections 9 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1957			
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-	-	-
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice			
a) By owners	-	2	-
b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	1	-	-

TABLE NO. 4. (Contd)

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	-	-	1
(C) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957	22	23	15
(D) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957			
(i) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	-	-	-
<u>3. Housing Act, 1957 - Overcrowding</u>			
(a) Number of dwellings statutorily overcrowded at the end of the year	20	22	26
Number of families dwelling therein	32	36	39
Number of persons dwelling therein	100	120	131
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	27	15	11
(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	20	13	14
(d) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider to report			-

TABLE NO. 5.

RENT ACT, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair received	4
Decisions not to issue	-
Decisions to issue in respect of	
a) Some defects	2
b) All defects	1
Undertakings received and accepted	3
Undertakings received and refused	-
Certificates of Disrepair issued	1



